

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated January 23, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,825,439 to Noriyama (hereinafter “Noriyama”). Claims 4 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noriyama.

The rejection of claims 1-10 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1 and 6 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, “at least one pad connected with the plurality of gate lines or the plurality of data lines, the pad having at least one edge having grooves therein, wherein the edge is formed at a cutting line of the shorting bar” (claims 1 and 6).” None of the cited references including Noriyama, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. The structure of claims 1 and 6 of the present invention is different from the Noriyama structure in that Noriyama does not disclose or suggest “the edge is formed at a cutting line of the shorting bar”. In fact, Noriyama does not discuss where the cut of the shorting bar is made, however, Noriyama does indicate that “the effect static electricity generated on the way of the production may be reduced further by providing a connecting conductor electrically connected respectively with the signal line Xi and the scan line Yj at the outer periphery of the connecting conductor 211 and by removing it before the checking process” (Noriyama, col. 9, lines 50-55). But Noriyama does not disclose or suggest “the edge is formed at a cutting line of the shorting bar” at least because Noriyama makes no disclosure of a cutting line or where it might be located. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and

claims 2-5, which depend from claim 1; and claim 6 and claims 7-10, which depend from claim 6, are allowable over the cited references.

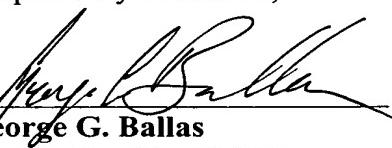
Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

By _____


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